

# HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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*Introduced by: Smith V*

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing Vivian Carter and Vee-Jay Records.

*Whereas, Born in Tunica, Mississippi on March 25, 1921, Vivian Carter moved to Gary as a child;*

*Whereas, Vivian met James C. Bracken, her future husband, in 1944;*

*Whereas, In 1948, Vivian won a talent contest conducted by the legendary Al Benson for new radio deejays in Chicago and her life in the music industry began;*

*Whereas, Vivian worked as a deejay at WGES in Chicago and WJOB in Hammond and, together with James, founded Vivian's Record Shop in Gary;*

*Whereas, In 1953, after three years of saving their money, Vivian Carter and James C. Bracken founded Vee-Jay Records*



*in Gary;*

*Whereas, Meanwhile, Vivian continued deejaying in Gary, joining WGRY and then moving to WWCA, which was instrumental in attracting talent to their new label;*

*Whereas, Vee-Jay Records quickly became a major independent record label, with their first recorded song going to the top ten on the national rhythm and blues charts;*

*Whereas, Vee-Jay also enjoyed considerable success with rock and roll and jazz acts, most notably the Four Seasons and the Beatles;*

*Whereas, Vee-Jay records disbanded in 1966, but Vivian remained active in radio well into the 1980s; and*

*Whereas, Vee-Jay Records and Vivian Carter contributed a tremendous legacy of blues, rhythm and blues, doowop, jazz, soul, pop, and rock and roll for future generations to enjoy: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the  
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1           SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives wishes to
- 2           remember the contributions of Vivian Carter and Vee-Jay Records to
- 3           the music industry.

